For disclosures of the special funding situations, our office will rely on the judgement of the governments (employers) or their auditors about materiality of participation in the plans shown below.

If the amount of pension expense is immaterial to the government’s financial statements, then the government may omit all disclosures or may disclose that the government’s employees (police officers, sheriff, firefighters, judges, etc.) participate in a specific plan and refer the readers to the Plan for further information.

(Note: We usually do not see any disclosures for these plans so we will not expect any changes as we review the reports for immaterial participation.)

If the amounts are material to the financial statements, then on-behalf payments should be recognized as revenue and expense in the financial statements and the disclosure requirements for special funding situations would apply. Please see the referenced links to GASB guidance shown below the lists of the retirement plans.

Plans:

1. Sheriff’s Retirement Fund of Georgia
2. Magistrate Judges Retirement Fund
3. Judges of the Probate Courts Retirement Fund of Georgia
4. Georgia Firefighters Pension Fund
5. Peace Officers’ Annuity and Benefit Fund
6. Superior Court Clerks’ Retirement Fund of Georgia

Tax Commissioners would be included in the ERS plan and this is also a special funding situation.

The Plans should have information about the allocations to specific employers. Most have received correspondence from the Plans or Funds about new requirements.

Some guidance for this situation can be found in the following GASB guidance:

Fact Sheet on the GASB’s New Pension Standards: Special Funding Situations
http://www.gasb.org/cs/ContentServer?c=Page&pagename=GASB%2FPage%2FGASBSectionPage&cid=1176160452526

GASB 68 Implementation Guide (specifically illustration 4a)

County Health Departments:
Also, our response for the County Health Departments will depend on the materiality level which is the same for any of the disclosures for any component unit. If the pension disclosures or RSI schedules are included for the health departments in the County audit reports, then the disclosures/RSI should be correct and complete.
Note that we will be expecting to see that the health departments are reporting the net pension liability or asset if applicable. If it appears that the health departments did not implement GASB 68 then we will include a citation for future reports for the County.

The health departments should have the disclosures and RSI schedules in their separate audit reports.